



## **Spatio-temporal abundance of *Culicoides* on a local scale**

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# Spatio-temporal abundance of *Culicoides* on a local scale

**Carsten Kirkeby**

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Peter Lind

$$P_{RG} = \frac{AP+Sp-1}{Se+Sp-1} \int_a^b \epsilon \Theta + \Omega \int \delta e^{i\pi} = \{2.7182818284\}$$

$\Delta$   $\infty$   $\chi^2$   $\Sigma$   $!$   $>$   $\omega$

DTU Vet

National Veterinary Institute

# Introduction

## *Culicoides*

- ♀ suck blood
- 500 species ~ 40 in Denmark
- 1-2mm
- **Parasites:** protozoans, nematodes
- **Virus:** Bluetongue, African Horse Sickness, Akabane Virus, Schmallenberg...



Institute of Animal Health UK

# Aim

- Local scale abundance:
  - Spatial factors?
  - Temporal factors?
- Predictable?



Institute of Animal Health UK

# Field work

- 50 light traps – 50\*50 m grid

- Distance to breeding sites



X  
X  
X X  
X X  
X X X

- Temperature

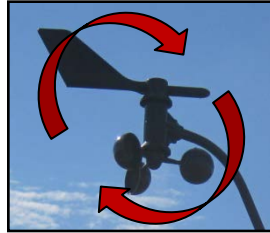


- Wind speed



# Field work

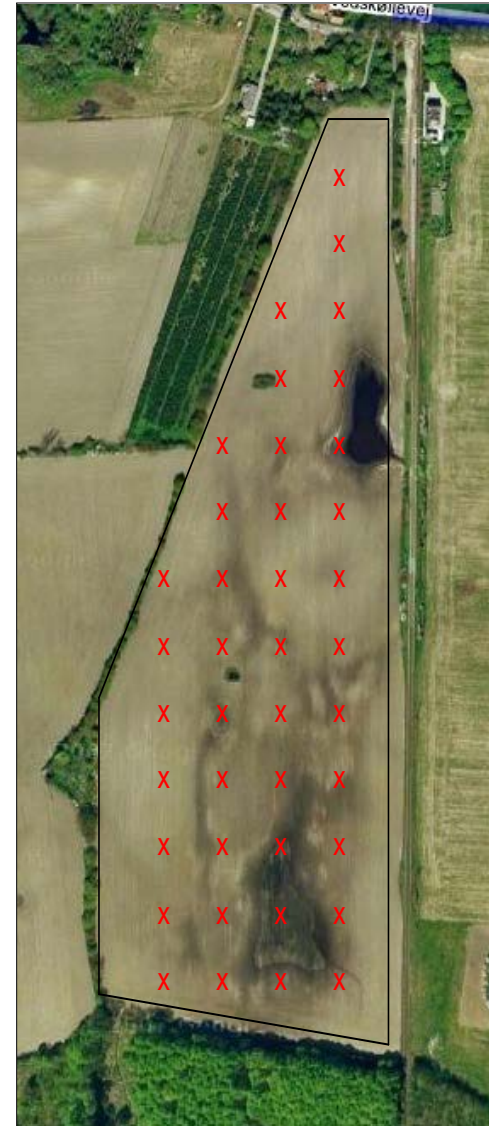
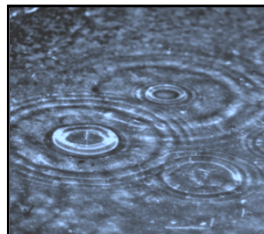
- Turbulence



- Humidity



- Precipitation





# Field work

- Host animals



- Windbreaks

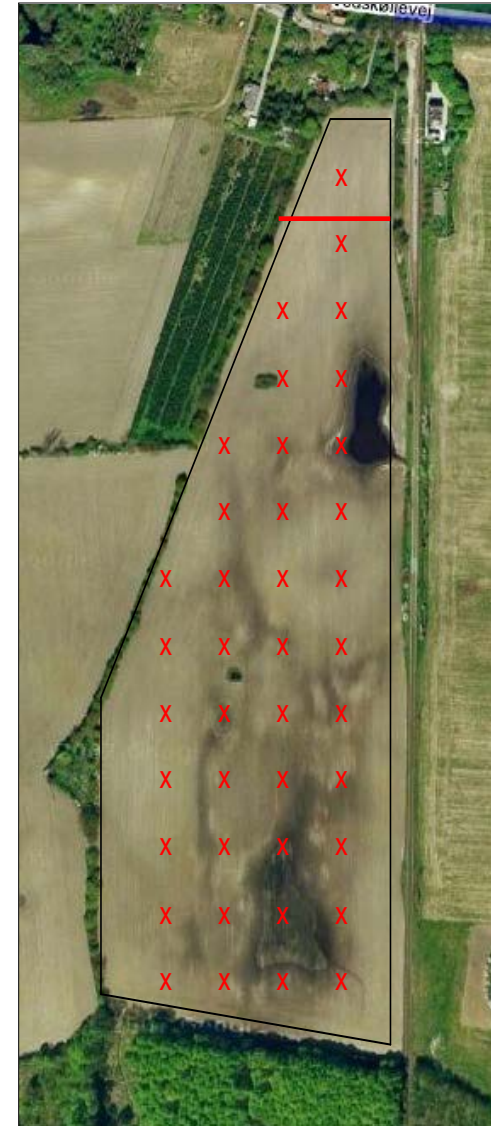


- Transect of sheep



# Field work

- Sheep transect

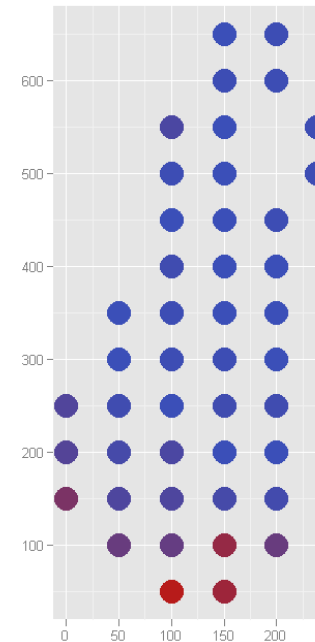
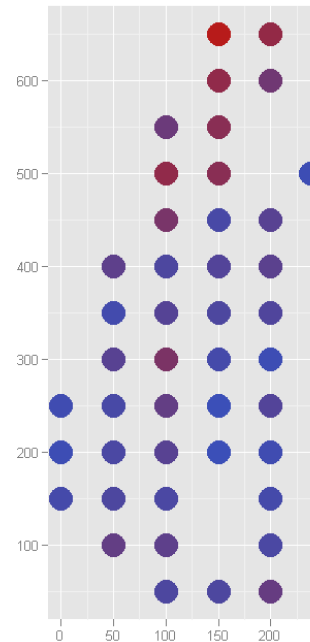




# Catches

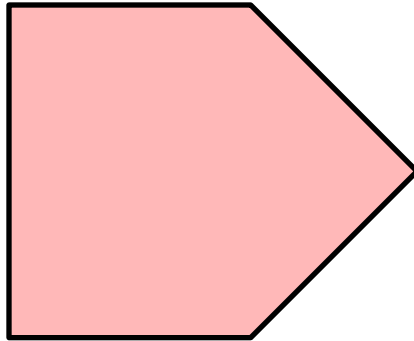
- 16 catch nights \* 50 light traps ~ 800 samples

Catch night	A1	A2	<u>B1</u>	<u>C1</u>	C2	C3	<u>E1</u>	E2	<u>E3</u>	<u>F1</u>	<u>F2</u>	<u>F3</u>	<u>F4</u>	G1	G3	G4
<i>Obsoletus</i> group	4	872	316	173	522	612	2	93	95	29	427	1086	1	253	2	1
<i>Pulicaris</i> group	15	8015	1524	750	621	952	4	190	223	33	817	1745	8	260	5	4

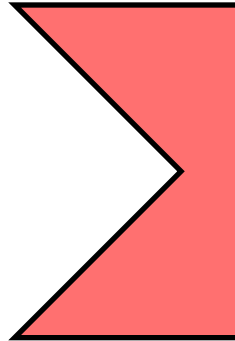


# Modeling

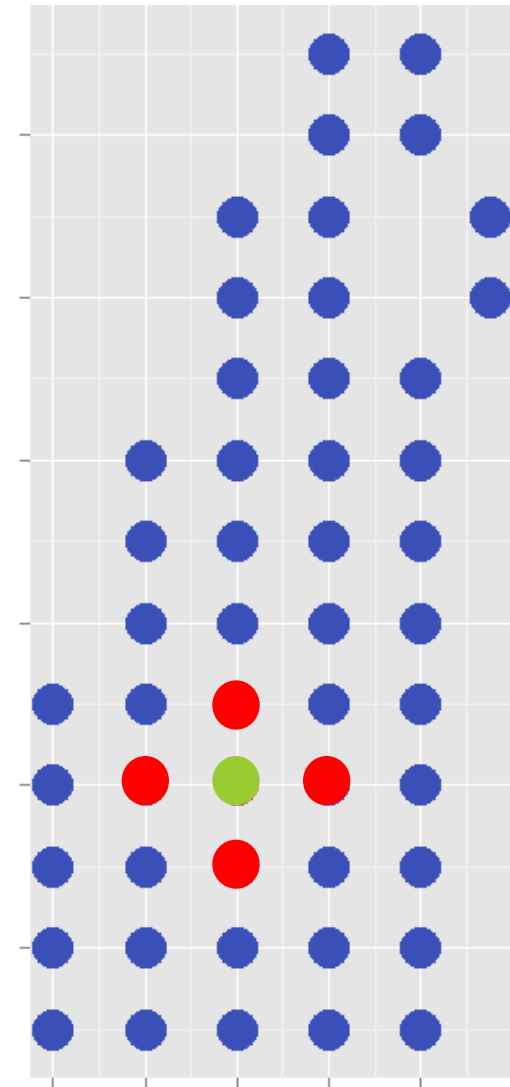
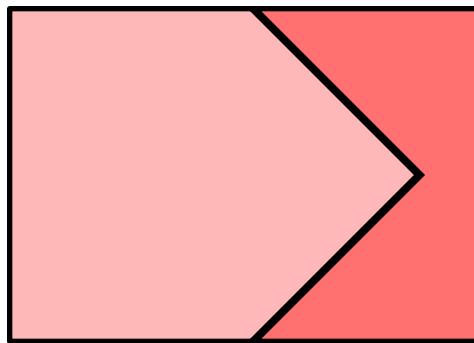
Regression model



Autocorrelation

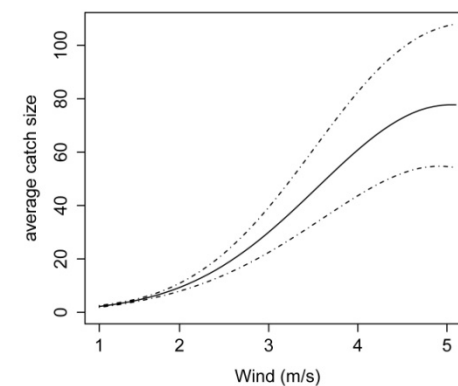
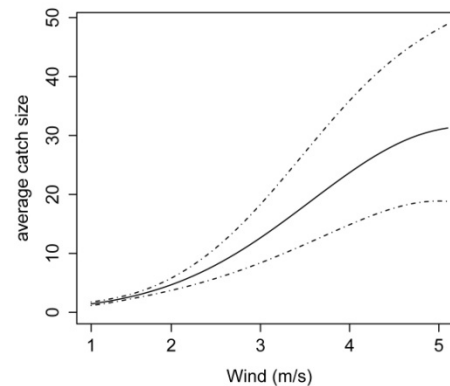
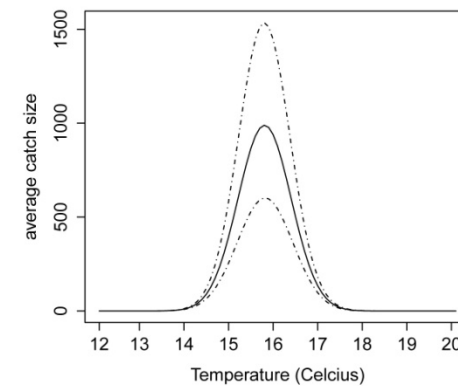
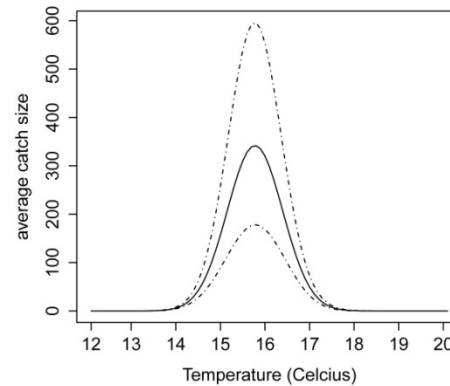
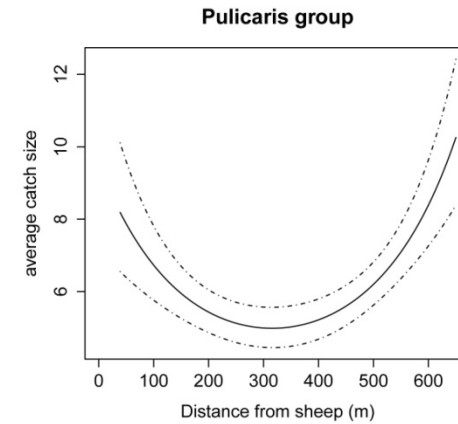
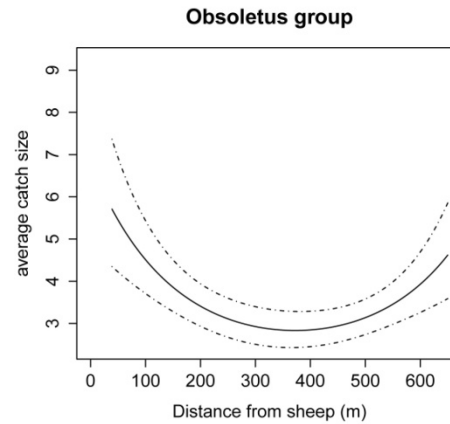


CAR Model



# Results

- Distance to sheep
- Temperature
- Wind speed



# Results

- Turbulence
- Humidity
- Precipitation
- Sheep transect

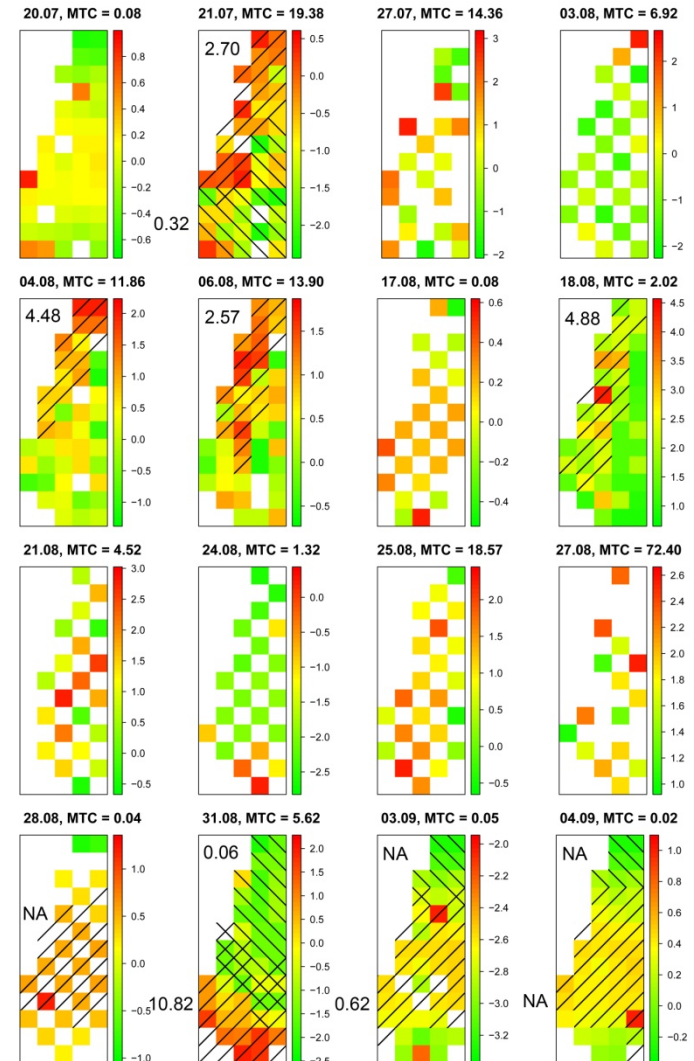
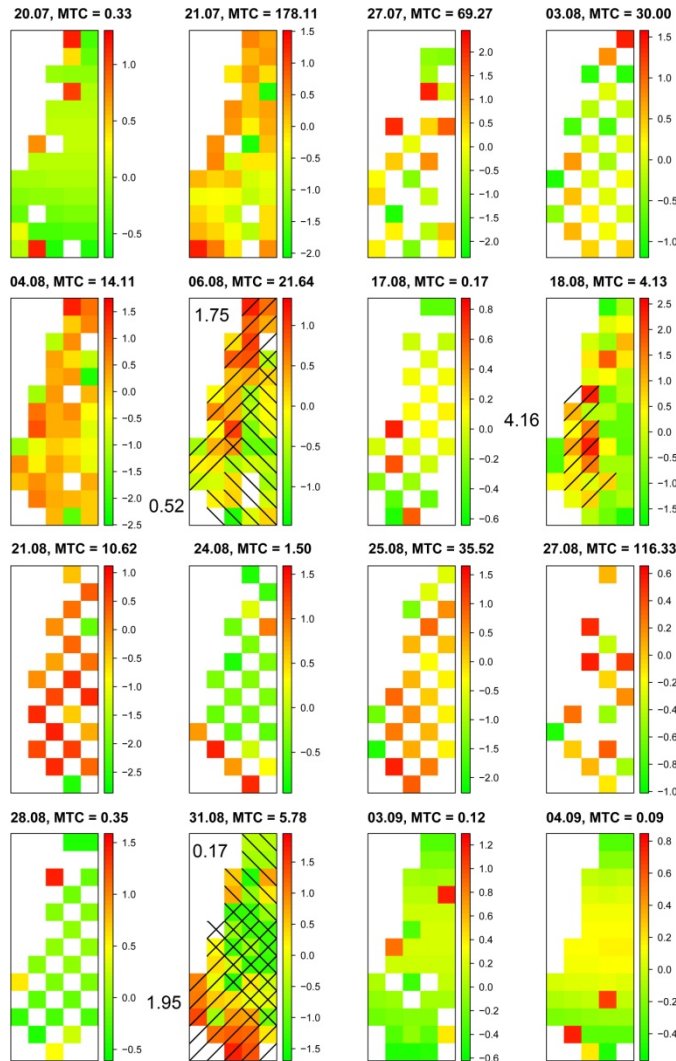
	Ordinary regression				CAR models			
	Obsoletus group		Pulicaris group		Obsoletus group		Pulicaris group	
Intercept	0.73		0.43		-349		-386	
Distance to sheep	$-4.5 \cdot 10^{-3}$	***	$-3.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$	***	$-4.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	***	$-4.05 \cdot 10^{-3}$	***
Distance to sheep <sup>2</sup>	$6.0 \cdot 10^{-6}$	***	$5.7 \cdot 10^{-6}$	***	$6.3 \cdot 10^{-6}$	***	$6.42 \cdot 10^{-6}$	***
Precipitation	NS		NS		-66.2	***	-73.40	***
Turbulence	NS		NS		-186.2	***	-206.6	***
Humidity	NS		NS		1.06	***	1.19	***
Temperature	NS		NS		39.95	***	43.91	***
Temperature <sup>2</sup>	NS		NS		-1.27	***	-1.40	***
Wind speed	$-7.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	*	NS		1.84	***	2.27	***
Wind speed <sup>2</sup>	NS		NS		-0.18	**	$-0.23 \cdot 10^{-2}$	***
Sheep transect	NS		0.51	*	NS		0.4794	*
Windbreaks	-0.28	*	$-9.7 \cdot 10^{-2}$	***	NS		NS	
Sheep scent	-7.116	***	0.81	*	NS		NS	
Windbreaks * Sheep scent	$4.8 \cdot 10^3$	***	2077	*	NS		NS	
Wind speed * Sheep scent	-84.96	*	NS		NS		NS	
Catch night 21.07	2.68		4.84		-0.56		1.03	
Catch night 27.07	2.06		3.60		-4.24		-3.32	
Catch night 03.08	1.09		3.05		59.64		67.31	
Catch night 04.08	1.96		2.22		221.60		245.30	
Catch night 06.08	2.37		2.81		21.86		24.59	
Catch night 17.08	0.01		-0.04		-9.51		-10.76	
Catch night 18.08	0.73		1.09		-5.48		-5.92	
Catch night 21.08	1.34		2.11		108.80		120.60	
Catch night 24.08	0.36		0.38		NA		NA	
Catch night 25.08	2.72		3.17		NA		NA	
Catch night 27.08	4.11		4.56		NA		NA	
Catch night 28.08	-0.07		0.02		NA		NA	
Catch night 31.08	1.09		1.26		NA		NA	
Catch night 03.09	-0.05		-0.08		NA		NA	
Catch night 04.09	NA		-0.06		NA		NA	
Residual variance	0.68		0.65		0.69		0.65	



## Results

- Uncertainty: 20% – 300%
- Significant spatial autocorrelation
- Temporal autocorrelation insignificant
- Dynamic pattern: 4 or 11 times higher abundance



# Results



# Read more

www.parasitesandvectors.com/content/6/1/43/abstract

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**Spatial abundance and clustering of Culicoides (Diptera: Ceratopogonidae) on a local scale**

Carsten Kirkeby, René Bødker, Anders Stockmarr and Peter Lind

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**Abstract (provisional)**

**Background**  
Biting midges, Culicoides, of the Obsoletus group and the Pulicaris group have been involved in recent outbreaks of bluetongue virus and the former was also involved in the Schmallenberg virus outbreak in northern Europe.

**Parasites & Vectors**  
Volume 6

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Questions are welcome

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